

BOOK REVIEW

MONOGRAPHIE DER OSTASIASTISCHEN FORMEN DER GATTUNG *MELANARGIA* MEIGEN (LEPIDOPTERA: SATYRIDAE). Sigbert Wagener. Zoologica, 39 Band, Heft 108: 56 plates, 26 text illustrations, 13 tables, 8 maps. Lieferung 1, 1959; Lieferung 2, 1959; Lieferung 3, 1961. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Stuttgart.

This exceedingly important work will long stand as a landmark, not only in the systematics of the widespread genus of Palaearctic butterflies which it partially covers, but in the general study, and especially the Zoogeography, of Palaearctic insects and other animals. The number of species recognized from the region is reduced to 8, scores of other names being used as applying to forms or subspecies of these. A total of 3413 specimens of both sexes were studied in all the prominent European museums. Their variations are listed in tables which will make possible statistical analyses by other methods. A large number of male genitalia dissections were made, and the variations of these figured. Many new subspecies are named. Other important data are given including the synonymy and the bibliographic references for all generic, specific and infraspecific, names, and the location and data of all known type material. The thorough bibliography includes references to many pertinent papers in systematics and morphology. The maps of East Asia and the synonymic lists of collecting localities there (a very troublesome matter) will be of great service to other workers. Especially valuable is the lengthy discussion of the postulated evolution as evidenced by subspeciation and affected by the climatic factors, the isolation of populations and the geologic history of the region. The author is to be congratulated on an accomplishment that will prove of great value to workers in many fields.

ALEXANDER B. KLOTS

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY